MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

11 JUNE 1986

Lebanon

The warring Lebanese and Palestinians have responded to Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Mohammad 'Ali Besharati's "persistent efforts" to end the fighting by agreeing to cease fire as of 11 June, Tehran radio announced. The camps war had continued the previous day despite Besharati's announcement that a comprehensive cease-fire would take effect 10 June, according to Beirut radio. Algiers Voice of Palestine radio broadcast an appeal to Arab leaders by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat asking for their assistance in stopping the "massacres" being committed against the Palestinian camps in Beirut. Radio Monte Carlo said 'Arafat has accused the Syrians of helping direct the Amal Movement's attacks on the camps. The radio also broadcast an interview with Amal leader Nabih Birri, who reaffirmed claims of a "secret agreement" between 'Arafat and President Amin al-Jumayyil whereby "more than half" 'Arafat's forces have returned to Lebanon via Juniyah and "most of them are now in East Beirut, trying to enter West Beirut." Birri also urged the Syrians to "assume their complete responsibilities" and use their security or military forces to disengage the combatants in the camps war.

As for southern Lebanon, Beirut radio blamed Israel for artillery shelling and a bomb explosion which killed 8 people in villages near Israel's security zone.

Iran

Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akhbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani commented on the limits of Iranian influence in Beirut during a news conference reported by Tehran radio, confirming that the Amal Movement is less receptive to Iranian advice than Hizballah, while most of the Palestinians "do not have warm relations" with Iran and "do not listen to us." On internal affairs, he acknowledged the existence of two different factions which coexist within the Islamic Republican Party but which have different views on the role of government and the private sector. These two schools of thought "always come into conflict when a minister is to be appointed," and are akin to "two parties without names."

Iraq

Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz termed Iraqi-French relations as "very good" following talks with the French president in Paris 10 June, in a statement cited by Baghdad radio. 'Aziz told a news conference that Iraq "will not object" to a normalization of French-Iranian ties, insisting that such a development will not "harm" Iraq's relations with France, Radio Monte Carlo reported.

As for Iraq's relations with Syria, "informed sources" in Amman cited by AFP disclosed that 'Aziz will meet with his Syrian counterpart Faruq al-Shar' 13 June on the Iraqi-Syrian border.

Iran-Iraq War

An Iraqi military spokesman cited by INA asserted that Iraqi planes shot down an Iranian F-4 "deep inside" Iran after thwarting its attempt to penetrate Iraqi airspace over the II Army Corps sector 10 June. Meanwhile, Lloyds of London informed INA that a Liberian tanker was hit by a missile near Khark Island 10 June.

Libya

In a speech broadcast by Tripoli radio, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi told residents of Darnah that this northeastern Libyan city "is among the targets that the United States is eager to occupy," and he said Darnah and the mountains overlooking it must be fortified in order to repulse a U.S. attack.

In another development, Al-Qadhdhafi congratulated Kurt Waldheim on his election as Austrian president in a cable carried by JANA, asserting that the election victory was achieved "despite the efforts exerted by Zionism" aimed at "harming" Waldheim.

Syria

The clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported that the Defense Ministry has detained 16 Sunni officers for maintaining ties with the Muslim Brotherhood and that a "secret" Sunni movement is printing and distributing antigovernment leaflets in Hamah. The radio also cited reports that new supplies of Soviet-made tanks are arriving at Latakia port under the supervision of Soviet experts.

Egypt

Poor weather conditions caused the crash near Cairo airport of an Air Sinai plane, killing 21 persons and injuring 4 others, Cairo radio reported.

In another development, in an interview with *MAYU* reported by AFP, Defense Minister 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah accused the Soviet Union and the United States of seeking a continuation of the Gulf war for their own "particular reasons." He said the USSR is endeavoring to secure control of or "encircle" Mideast oil resources, a charge which Moscow radio's Arabic service denied and described as "strange," contrasting it with the Egyptian leadership's "sincere concern" for an improvement in Soviet-Egyptian ties.

PLO

The Greek public order minister confirmed that the Arab shot dead in Athens 9 June was a "senior PLO official" travelling under an Algerian passport, Athens radio reported, although he said the police are unsure of the man's true identity.

Arab Summit

The UAE paper *AL-ITTIHAD* reported 11 June that an extraordinary Arab summit conference will be held in Casablanca 3-4 July, preceded by a foreign ministers' meeting 23 June, WAKH noted.

FBIS

DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

South Asia

Vol VIII No 112 *11 Jun 8686*

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

INDIA

Continuing Reportage on Unrest in Punjab State ..... E 1
Haryana Chief Minister on Chandigarh ..... E 1
Venkataramaiah Commission Submits Report ..... E 1
Paper Notes Hardened PRC Stand on Border Issue *[THE STATESMAN 3 Jun]* ..... E 1

PAKISTAN

Indian Envoy Conveys Gandhi's Message to President ..... F 1
Karachi: Afghan Mujahidin Kill 30 Troops in Herat ..... F 1
Commentary Views DRA Leadership, PDPA Problems ..... F 1

OTHER COUNTRIES

SRI LANKA

AFP: Bomb Blasts Kill 70 in Trincomalee, Kantalai ..... G 1
15 Die in Trincomalee Explosion ..... G 1
Soldier Killed in Renewed Kilinochchi Fighting ..... G 1
Indian Envoy Calls On President, Security Minister *[Delhi]* ..... G 1
AFP: Tamil Spy Ring Uncovered in Indian State ..... G 1
Tamils 'Masquerading' As Militants Arrested *[Delhi]* ..... G 1

IRAN

Further Reportage on Besharati Visit to Lebanon ..... I 1
'Optimistic' About End to Hostilities ..... I 1
Succeeds in Negotiating Cease-Fire ..... I 1
Meets With French Hostages' Kidnappers *[Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD 11 Jun]* ..... I 1
Majlis Speaker on Khomeyni Speech, Need for Unity ..... I 1
Hashemi-Rafsanjani on Relations With Arab World, U.S. ..... I 2
Prime Minister Comments on U.S. Relations, Economy ..... I 3
Envoy to Libya Delivers Al-Qadhdhafi Support Message ..... I 3
Industries Minister, FRG Envoy Discuss Trade Ties ..... I 4
Kuwait Continues To Torture, Expel Nationals ..... I 4
Petroleum Minister Interviewed on OPEC, Oil Policy ..... I 4
Military Training Base for Civilians Opens in Tehran ..... I 5
Iraqi Forces Destroy Kurdish Village After Protest ..... I 5
SAIRI Issues Report on Executed Iraqi Officers ..... I 5
Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq ..... I 5
9 Jun Joint Communique ..... I 5
Communique No 2,497 ..... I 6
1,800 Iraqi Officers Killed in February ..... I 6
AFP: 1,000 Iranian Oppositionists Leave for Iraq ..... I 6
Mojahedin-e Khalq Planning Anti-Regime Operations ..... I 6
Opposition Paper on Khomeyni War Against Iraq *[KEYHAN 29 May]* ..... I 7

Continuing Reportage on Unrest in Punjab State

Haryana Chief Minister on Chandigarh

BK101607 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 10 Jun 86

[Text] In Haryana, the state administration has been kept in full alert to maintain peace. According to a police spokesman, 70 companies of paramilitary forces have also been requisitioned. Most of the additional forces have already arrived and taken position at strategic and sensitive places in the state by tomorrow.

The state chief minister, Mr Bansi Lal, has appealed to the people to maintain peace and communal harmony. Talking to newsmen in Chandigarh today, he expressed full confidence that the Center will do full justice to the interest of the state and adequate territory will be given to Haryana in lieu of Chandigarh.

Earlier, addressing a meeting of senior officers, Mr Bansi Lal said that his government will chalk out an action program for every 100 days to implement various programs.

Venkataramaiah Commission Submits Report

BK101653 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 10 Jun 86

[Text] The Venataramaiah Commission has submitted its report to the government. The commission was appointed to identify the Hindi-speaking areas of Punjab, which are to be transferred to Haryana in lieu of Chandgarh under the Punjab accord. The secretary of the commission, Mr Ashok Nath, handed over the report to the union home minister, Mr Buta Singh, in New Delhi this afternoon. However, the recommendations of the commission have not been made public.

According to an official press release, the commission was called upon to take into account the earlier Mathew Commission report. The release says in the statement of its claim the Haryana government did not specify any Hindi-speaking villages from the State of Punjab in lieu of Chandigarh, but on the other hand asserted that the reference itself was unworkable. In such a situation, the commission on its own tried to ascertain from the material available to it some Hindi-speaking areas in Punjab.

The commission also tried to explore other avenues of settlement, such as the construction of a capital for Haryana on the 15,000 acres of land to be made available by Punjab near Chandigarh. The commission ascertained the central government's willingness to bear the cost of construction of the capital for Haryana.

The release adds that the center has expressed its willingness to give financial assistance, which was considered reasonable by the commission for the purpose.

It was disclosed that on the 29th of last month the Harayan government made a claim for 483 Hindi-speaking villages of Punjab before the secretary of the commission. The commission considered the claim but could not investigate it due to shortage of time as the report was to be submitted by the 31st. However, when the central government extended the term of the commission by 10 days, it could hear the concerned parties for about 3 days while other days were holidays.

It was also disclosed that the chief ministers of Punjab and Haryana met the chairman of the commission a few times and the commission made an attempt to arrive at a mutually acceptable settlement. However, it had not been possible to arrive at such a settlement, and the commission made its own recommendations keeping in view the wider perspective of national interest.

The commission in its report has dealt with the entire history of the division of Punjab right from the days of the Radcliff Commission.

Receiving the report, Mr Buta Singh appreciated the work done by the commission in completing the report in the stipulated period.

The Political Affairs Committee of the Union Cabinet had a meeting this evening under the chairmanship of the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi. The meeting was held after the Venkataramaiah commission's report was submitted to the home minister. Earlier, the prime minister had informal consultations with some of his senior colleagues.

Paper Notes Hardened PRC Stand on Border Issue

BK100650 Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 3 Jun 86 p 1

[From Chandan Mitra]

[Text] Beijing, June 2 — Before the seventh round of talks between India and China over the protracted boundary dispute, the Chinese position appears to have hardened considerably, although no firm date for the next round of discussions has been fixed. Both Indian and Chinese officials expect the talks to take place in July.

The Chinese Vice Foreign Minister, Mr Liu Shuqing, who led his country's delegation to the last round of talks in Delhi and will be the leader of the Chinese side at the forthcoming round in Beijing, made it abundantly clear during an interview today that China considers the eastern sector to be the main problem.

He claimed that India was in possession of about 90,000 square kilometres of territory that has traditionally belonged to China. He also asserted that even during the colonial period, the rulers of India had not advanced so far.

It is learnt the Indian officials were somewhat taken aback during the last round of border talks in October-November when it was agreed for the first time to take up the problem sector-by-sector and the Chinese insisted on pressing their claims in the east. Earlier it had been assumed by India that China stuck to Zhou Enlai's 1960 formula whereby India was expected to make substantive concessions in the west (Aksai Chin) in exchange for the Chinese abandoning their claims to Arunachal Pradesh.

Dismissing the possibility of accepting the present line of actual control as the basis for a settlement, Mr Liu said that while some

irregularities on the western sector had been resolved by "the unfortunate war", the problem in the eastern and middle sectors remain unresolved.

He said that if India was willing to make concessions in the east, the Chinese would certainly consider making a gesture in the west. He claimed that Chinese concessions on the western sector were as vital to India as Indian accommodation in the east was to the Chinese.

The Chinese Vice Foreign Minister said there was no clear border demarcation anywhere along the India-China boundary. But a traditional line had existed for centuries and the border peoples had customarily observed the line. Thus history had to be taken into account. "At the same time realities also must be noted. Even with regard to the eastern sector we do not want to regain all the area that is traditionally ours. But readjustments must be made", Mr Liu said.

Asked if his Government's new position did not amount to repudiation of Zhou Enlai's 1960 proposals, the Minister said: "Premier Zhou, was only talking about ideas not specific proposals". He also claimed the eastern sector dispute aroused strong feelings among China's border people. "You should ask the Tibetans what they feel about this", he said adding that China never gave publicity to these feelings as they could sour the otherwise developing relations between the two countries.

The Minister denied that China's border problems with its three major neighbours, the Soviet Union, Vietnam and India, were affecting its image. He said the issues were completely different and hoped that the Sino-Indian dispute would be resolved early. "But if that presents problems, we say leave it aside. Let us develop good relations in other spheres".

Indian officials feel that at best China's sudden emphasis on the eastern sector is a bargaining ploy, a bid to make minimum concessions on the western sector where it is in possession of more area than even its own claim. However, at worst, it may indicate Chinese unwillingness to settle the border dispute. The Chinese evidently feel that they have time on their side — a few decades are nothing for civilizations that are several millenia old. Besides, since they are in physical possession of much of the disputed territory (in the western sector) any settlement would imply their giving up something. That probably explains the new stress on the east.

In other words it would be unrealistic to expect a breakthrough in Sino-Indian relations in the near future. Indian officials however feel that the talks have been helpful because the sector-by-sector discussion has enabled India to clearly identify the precise contours of the actual line of control in the hilly areas of Arunachal Pradesh.

Besides the border talks do not only discuss border problems. For instance, a cultural sub-group will accompany the Indian delegation led by Mr Venkateswaran to Beijing during the next round. Trade ties are also likely to be discussed as trade appears to have stagnated with the balance slightly in China's favour.

What is, however, clear is that the sweeping changes in China — which are all too evident from the array of Japanese cars, colour television sets, women's fashion, young couples holding hands while ambling down Tienanmen Square under a huge portrait of Mao Zedong — have not affected its approach to the Sino-Indian border dispute.

If anything, attitudes have hardened on both sides and expectations that Mr Rajiv Gandhi's Government will be able to take very bold steps have also gradually evaporated. This is partly because the Chinese have retracted from their earlier position and because no Government in India can afford to take the kind of steps which China wants.

Time, however, is probably on China's side. The border does not seem to be bothering them too much, regardless of what Chinese officials say.

Indian Envoy Conveys Gandhi's Message to President

BK101031 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 10 Jun 86

[Text] The Indian ambassador, Mr S.k. Singh, called on President Mohammad Ziaul Haq in Rawalpindi and conveyed greetings on behalf of the Indian president, Mr Zail Singh, and the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi. He delivered a letter from the Indian prime minister to the president. He also had a brief discussion on matters of mutual interest, including bilateral relations.

Karachi: Afghan Mujahidin Kill 30 Troops in Herat

BK101029 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 10 Jun 86

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say mujahidin have carried out operations against the Soviet-Kabul troops in five villages of Karukh area in Herat Province recently.

The report adds that in the combat at least 30 Soviet-Kabul troops were killed or injured while a large quantity of arms was also captured by the Afghan mujahidin. Eight Afghan mujahidin were martyred and a number of others were injured.

Commentary Views DRA Leadership, PDPA Problems

BK110445 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1715 GMT 10 Jun 86

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Agency reports from Kabul said the other day that Dr Najibullah, secretary general of the ruling People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan [PDPA] was wounded in a June 2 shootout in Kabul as his supporters and those of ousted leader Babrak Karmal clashed by firing at each other.

Reports also said that 2 days later the demonstration against Dr Najibullah continued in Kabul, indicating that he was not yet fully acceptable to the PDPA itself.

The PDPA is known to have bene rift-ridden from the very beginning. The Khalq -- that is people -- and Parcham -- that is flag, are factions that have had no love lost for each other. Their activists fought and got killed in various encounters during the past 6 years. Gradually, the Parchamists with Soviet blessings consolidated their position inside government apparatus and except for Sayyed Gulabzoy, the interior minister, no prominent Khalqi remained in power.

Having cornered the Khalqis, the Parchamists have now started their own infighting. Ironically, the ousted Communist Party boss Babrak Karmal and the new chief, Dr Najibullah, happened to be the Parcham stalwarts, and both seem to be at loggerheads. To the great chagrin of the foreign occupation forces, the leadership issue is far from settled in Kabul. And 2 months back, PRAVDA (?castigated) Babrak and his failures in carrying out desired reforms and in broadening the base of Communist Government by enlisting popular support. That meant the sealing of the fate of Mr Karmal and that paved the way for the emergence of Dr Najibullah as the new strongman. But the strongman does not look like consolidating his hold on the seat of power. He seems to be (?precariously) perched on it.

[Words indistinct] Taraki or Amin or Karmal and Najibullah — all of them have had one common shortcoming: They lacked support of common masses. The so-called Sawr Revolution that overthrew the regime of President Daud did not have a groundswell of its own. It did not have a revolution of the masses. At best, it was a bloody coup masterminded and carried out by a coterie of Armed Forces men who were nurtured by a foreign power. Since it lacked popular backing, it backfired. The brave and prouder ones could not [words indistinct] and spread of an alien and godless ideology in their country. This explains why the Muslims in Afghanistan rose in arms to oppose foreign occupation of their land and to fight the onslaught of communism.

The struggle of the Muslims of Afghanistan has continued and shows no sign of abatement. The struggle enjoys popular backing. It was the struggle of the people at popular level. Dr Najibullah and his supporters are arrayed against this struggle of the Afghans. They are siding with their foreign masters. Naturally, the Afghans pay little heed to those who are out to play the role of puppets. Puppets all over the world suffer from a great handicap. They do not move on their own. It is the hidden hand of the puppeteer that move them and if the audience, that is, the people, are not pleased with the puppeteer, they would not applaud the antics of the puppet. This is exactly what has happened in Afghanistan. The Afghans are offering tremendous sacrifices to end this occupation and to regain their freedom to shape their destiny in the light of their own religion, culture, and tradition. If the Afghan people, who are the real arbiters of their own fate, are not prepared to accept or legitimize the ruling clique in Kabul, how is it possible for the world at large to do so?

The world at large and the world's main forums such as the United Nations and Islamic Conference Organization, and Nonaligned Movement [NAM] have done exactly what reflects the popular consensus inside Afghanistan. This consensus asks for the end of occupation and withdrawal of foreign troops.

Pakistan, being part of free world and a member of ICO and NAM fraternity, has gone along with the world consensus on Afghanistan. It demands what the world demands, nothing more and nothing less. While doing everything to promote a peaceful political solution of the Afghanistan problem, Pakistan has very firmly rejected pressures to provide legitimacy to the regime -- which is not liked by the Afghan people themselves. This principled stand of Pakistan was reflected in its firm stand on the format issue for the UN-initiated Geneva talks.

SRI LANKA

AFP: Bomb Blasts Kill 70 in Trincomalee, Kantalai

BK110705 Hong Kong AFP in English 0702 GMT 11 Jun 86

[Text] Colombo, June 11 (AFP) — More than 70 people were killed Wednesday when Tamil separatists used time-bombs to blow up two buses carrying civilians in northeastern Sri Lanka, security sources said.

They said the two buses were about to leave the port town of Trincomalee for Colombo and Kantalai in the east when two explosions erupted at around 9 a.m.

The security sources said that over 70 Sinhalese, Tamil and Moslem passengers were killed in the blasts which were triggered by time bombs planted in the two buses.

The sources said that the army was patrolling the streets of Trincomalee, while other sources reached by telephone said that the Streets of the town were deserted and that shops and offices had closed.

Informed sources said that ranking security personnel were being dispatched to the scene of the attack.

15 Die in Trincomalee Explosion

BK111111 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 11 Jun 86

[Text] Two CTB [Ceylon Transport Board] buses were blasted by terrorists in the northeastrn city of Trincomalee this morning. Security sources told LANKA PUWATH that 15 civilians were killed and 73 others wounded in the explosion. The wounded were air lifted to Trincomalee, Anuradhapura, and Colombo hospitals.

The security forces have cordoned off the area following the incident and a curfew has been declared in the administrative district of Trincomalee from 1700 [1130 GMT] today until 0500 [2330 GMT] tomorrow — Thursday, the 12th June.

Soldier Killed in Renewed Kilinochchi Fighting

BK111132 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 11 Jun 86

[Text] Fresh fighting had opened in Kilinochchi yesterday morning when an armed foot patrol was attacked by terrorists, with one soldier killed and some others wounded. Terrorists attacked the troops while they were approaching the Velvettiturai camp by sea. The injured soldiers were flown to Colombo and admitted to general hospital. The senior military spokesman said that a number of terrorists may also have been killed or injured.

First reports say the troops were pursuing terrorists who attacked the district main military base last Wednesday. The terrorists were successfully driven away by the troops, killing 21 LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] fighters.

Meanwhile, the National Security Ministry said that two terrorists were killed and nine taken into custody in the separate incidents in the Batticaloa district in the eastern Sri Lanka on Monday.

Indian Envoy Calls On President, Security Minister

BK100938 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 10 Jun 86

[Text] In Colombo, intense diplomatic activity to resolve ethnic crisis continues following a message from the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, to President Jayewardene. The message was delivered by the Indian high commissioner, Mr J.N. Dixit, yesterday.

Mr Dixit has already called on the Sri Lankan president twice in the past 24 hours. He also met the Sri Lankan national security minister, Mr Lalith Athulathmudali, last evening and the land development minister, Mr Gamini Dissanayake, this morning.

Sri Lanka's high commissioner in India, Mr Tilakaratna, is now in Colombo for consultations.

AFP: Tamil Spy Ring Uncovered in Indian State

BK101620 Hong Kong AFP in English 1613 GMT 10 Jun 86

[Text] Madras, India, June 10 (AFP) — Around 12 Sri Lankan Tamils have been detained by police for questioning following the discovery of a Sri Lankan spy ring operating out of southern Tamil Nadu state, police said Tuesday.

The detained included two associates of a Tamil minister in the Cabinet of Sri Lankan President Junius Jayewardene, police said. One of the associates was believed to be on the unidentified Tamil minister's personal staff.

The detained were all members of the various Tamil separatist groups which are waging a bloody campaign for a separate Tamil homeland in the north and east of Sri Lanka, police added.

Police Chief K. Mohandas declined to give any more details saying that investigations were continuing.

The Tamil separatist groups are based in Madras which is the capital of Tamil Nadu state where some 50 million Indian Tamils live.

Colombo has charged and New Delhi has denied that Tamil separatists are aided by India in their campaign.

Tamils 'Masquerading' As Militants Arrested

BK110305 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 11 Jun 86

[Text] A few Sri Lankan Tamils who were masquerading as Tamil militants and allegedly carrying on spying activities for Sri Lankan Government have been arrested in Madras. The arrested include a former Sri Lankan police official and a travel agent. Police refused to comment on the report.

Further Reportage on Besharati Visit to Lebanon

'Optimistic' About End to Hostilities

LD101849 Tehran IRNA in English 1835 GMT 10 Jun 86

[Text] Beirut, June 10, IRNA — Iran's acting foreign Minister 'Ali Mohammad Besharati said here Tuesday that he was optimistic that efforts by the Islamic Republic would shortly result in a cessation of hostilities between warring factions around refugee camps here.

Besharati made the statement in a press conference in the war-torn Lebanese capital in which he also termed Iranian mediation to end the fight as "successful".

"The result of Iran's efforts to end the regrettable clashes will shortly bear fruit," Besharati noted.

The Iranian official said that the Islamic Republic is seeking to unite all parties to the Lebanese fighting so that they can turn their weapons towards the Zionist regime and liberate the occupied Islamic lands.

Besharati furthermore noted that Iranian mediators had held talks with all the concerned parties in the Beirut camp fightings and that a cease-fire ending the bloodshed would shortly go into effect.

Succeeds in Negotiating Cease-Fire

LD110840 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 11 Jun 86

[Text] Deputy Foreign Minister 'Ali Mohammad Besharati and his accompanying delegation have, after persistent efforts to end the clashes between the Lebanese and Palestinians in Beirut, succeeded in obtaining their agreement to establish a cease-fire.

According to the Central News Unit, as a result of these efforts the warring factions agreed to the cease-fire effective today and will transfer the wounded to hospitals and treatment centers.

Meets With French Hostages' Kidnappers

GF111034 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 11 Jun 86 p 1

[Text] A well-informed political source has stated to *AL-ITTIHAD* that the visit of Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Mohammad 'Ali Besharati to Beirut is connected not only with the efforts to end the fighting around the Palestinian refugee camps, but also with discussions on effecting the release of the nine French hostages in Lebanon.

The source revealed that Besharati has secretly met with the kidnappers, and there may be positive signs that the French hostages will be released before the end of this month.

Majlis Speaker on Khomeyni Speech, Need for Unity

LD101302 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 10 June 86

[Text] During today's open session of the Majlis, Speaker Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani made some remarks in connection with Imam Khomeyni's speech yesterday. He said that this very important speech made by his eminence the imam, the great leader of the revolution, obliges us to pay attention to his holiness's instructions and follow them in our future programs. Should we fail to make the best use of this divine gift we would be ungrateful and guilty of ingratitude, and under the present circumstances, deserving of strong retribution.

Referring to the International Jerusalem Day marches in Iran, the Majlis speaker said: The imam was impressed by the presence of the people in the arena. Indeed, the people put their heart into welcoming Jerusalem Day, as the imam graciously pointed out. And it would be a failure on our part if we do not serve these people as they deserve. The people's participation in the International Jerusalem Day and 5 June celebrations, done without any obligation and voluntarily because they felt the desire to participate, is a lesson to our friends and foes. It is the best way to show our gratitude for the gift of having such a leader and people. And now it is our duty -- first, as Majlis deputies and second, as executive and judicial authorities -- to carry out these instructions.

The speaker of the Islamic Majlis added: There were two or three important points in the imam's remarks which should be noted: First was the issue of unity which his holiness stressed. You sense in the Majlis and outside how much we are in need of unity. Unfortunately, by raising some minor issues, sometimes unity of the Hezbollahi front in this country is undermined.

Addressing the Majlis deputies, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: Gentlemen, please be careful not to disrupt the unity that the people and the imam desire in the Majlis, for here we can be as examples for the rest of society.

Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani emphasized: Everyone knows the difference between positive and negative criticism. It might be impossible to prove this judicially, but both the speaker and his listener understand what the true intention is. To offer sympathetic and constructive criticism for ending shortages is understood by everyone. On the other hand, negative criticism creates a state of vengence and rivalry and attempts to push the rival out of the arena. Anyone who criticizes with such motives knows what he is doing, and the people understand it too. At present, policy lines and stances are so clear that everyone understands what a certain person means and what his intention is when speaking. One could strengthen and improve matters by making sincere, friendly and sympathetic criticisms.

Referring to some of the imam's phrases, the Majlis speaker went on: His holiness insisted that we the people should take part in the education issue, universities and higher education institutes. The imam feels this need and realizes these shortcomings. The imam knows that today our society and state require people's resources to make up for the shortages.

In this same connection, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani added: It is clear whom the imam is addressing and we would like to ask them to pay attention to this advice from the imam. We ask them not to ignore these instructions. It is obvious what the imam's objectives are. We, and particularly the Majlis, also understand this.

The Majlis speaker pointed out: Thanks to the imam's remarks and the principles he chose for us, the future line of the imam is now clear; and, God willing, the Majlis deputies will not disrupt the imam's plans; but truly observe these issues.

The Majlis speaker added: We call upon the government, the judicial system, those who are in charge of the press, the mass media, and those who speak out publicly to pay attention to the imam's advice and his heartfelt speech, which clearly comes from the bottom of his heart. We should not impose our own desire and way of thinking on the imam's instructions by somehow distorting the meaning of his holiness's remarks. You are all aware that all the legality of our intervention stems from the imam's will, and this is our ideology. We are different from other world democracies. The Majlis speaker emphasized: We should make the imam's instructions the axis of unity.

Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani added: The two existing factions and idealogies in the country can now cooperate with each other on the principles of the imam's remarks and they can all cooperate with the government, the Majlis and all establishments. The limits are clear — ask if in doubt. Put your questions to the imam; his holiness will clarify the point.

May the blessing of 'Id al-Fitr and the peoples presence on battlefronts bring greater coordination in our society, God willing. I hope that the Islamic Majlis will be in the vanguard of breaking those misguided ideas which might intend to harm our unity under the guise of some line or other.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani on Relations With Arab World, U.S.

LD101845 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 10 Jun 86

[Text] 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Majlis speaker and the imam's representative on the Supreme Defense Council, this afternoon held a news conference attended by local and foreign correspondents and radio and television representatives. He answered their questions on various issues of the foreign and domestic policies of our country.

A reporter asked: Despite the fact that the war has been imposed on the Islamic Republic of Iran and in view of the fact that all the resources necessary for a final assault to end the war are available, will this not provoke Arab countries against Iran?

Hashemi-Rafsanjani answered: We do not know the extent to which Arab countries can get more involved than they are at present. Some countries might become more involved but it might make them uncomfortable. But they cannot do much. As far as we know, those Arab states that have sided with Iraq have so far done certain things for Iraq. They are regretting what they have done because they will not profit by it. We believe it is unlikely that they would go further than they have gone so far. On the other hand, if they beocme disillusioned with Iraq's resistance they may come closer to us and accept reality. At the same time, they might at present suspect that after the fall of the Ba'th party in Iraq we might interfere in Iraq's internal affairs. But when they see in practice that we will not interfere, that we will leave Iraq's affairs to its people to handle, that Iraq will remain an independent Arab state, and that we will help Iraq regain its independence, Arab countries will naturally be satisfied with us. They may not believe this at the moment, but later on they will see in practice how we will behave. They may cooperate with us, and we are not worried about it from that point of view.

In answer to a question about the Iranian Government's support for the Palestine struggle and Islamic movements, particularly the Lebanese Shi'ite movement and the recent clashes, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: We are unhappy with and opposed to the clashes between the Palestinians and the Amal. We have sent a team to reconcile the parties to the conflict. It is not that the sides would listen to us. The Palestinians, particularly the majority faction, the PLO, do not have warm relations with us, either because of their association with Jordan and Egypt or because of their friendship with Baghdad. So they do not listen to us. It is not that the Amal group would listen to us, either. If you mean the Hizballah in Lebanon, they do listen to us; they are not involved in this conflict and are opposed to these instances of civil war. What we tell them they will accept. As for the Amal group, they are not so receptive. Sometimes they listen to us, sometimes they do not. We have intervened once or twice, and ended the war. We shall intervene again in order to end the conflict, God willing. But there are also some trouble-makers there who, as spies or foreign agents, unfortunately cause trouble.

Speaking about improving the Islamic Republic of Iran's relations with the West, particularly France and the United States, the Majlis speaker said: We have never actually wanted to cut off relations with the West; for many reasons we prefer to have ties. But what we do not want is Western hegemony. Under the previous regime the West dominated Iran, and the United States interfered in our internal affairs; our independence in those days was undermined. We seek cordial and friendly relations, and we are working to establish better relations. Of course, the West usually is not satisfied with equitable and reciprocal relations; they want to bully us and impose their political thinking. And if they have the chance, particularly the United States, they want to make more and more profit in economic relations.

As for France, I must say that France's relations with us were extremely bad; it was almost a partner of Iraq in the war. Things have not improved all that much even now: France is the center of the counterrevolution; terrorists have congregated there as political refugees, and they are active there. This is even against France's own relations [as heard] — something which is starting to improve. But it is still the beginning, and we have not made much progress yet.

Regarding the United States, I must say that America has done many terrible things to our country in the past. It was responsible for many of the crimes committed by the previous regime before the revolution. After the revolution, too, instead of apologizing and making amends for the past — once it realized it no longer

could exercise colonialist influence after the revolution — you saw how it gave asylum to the shah. The Americans had plans to step up their activities. We reacted vigorously, so they took the initiative and broke off relations with us, froze our assets there and hatched an extensive plot against us. We believe that in the war, too, America's hand is present. And countries such as Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, who are almost U.S. agents in the region in one way or another, are helping Baghdad in the war. We have always said that if the United States refrained from making trouble and could be satisfied with being a normal state with proper relations, once it has proved this. [sentence as heard] At the moment we are suspicious of the United States, but if it proves that it truly no longer wants to cause trouble, then we can establish relations with them. But with all the trouble it causes, it is unlikely that that day would come in the near future.

In answer to a question about ending the war imposed by Iraq through negotiations, the imam's representative on the Supreme Defense Council said: We have stated our willingness to negotiate based on the acceptance of Iraq as the aggressor in this war. Negotiations should be based on what punishment should be given to the aggressor. In other words, we will not negotiate anything other than the punishment of the aggressor. All this should be based on the fact that Iraq is the aggressor and the one that started the war.

In conclusion, Hashemi-Rafsanjani responded to a reporter who noted that in his remarks yesterday, the imam of the ummah urged unity among all those holding responsible positions in the country, stressing that all conflict should be avoided so that the government would be able to serve the people. That remark suggests that there might be a power struggle among you, the reporter continued.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: Of course, like anywhere else there are differences of views on the country's issues. In particular, there are at present two relatively powerful factions in our country with differences of views on how the country should be run and on the role of the government and that of the private sector in affairs. These two tendencies also exist in the Majlis, in the government, within the clergy, within the universities and across society as a whole. These two schools of thought always come into conflict when a minister is to be appointed, when a government is to be formed and when responsibilities are to be set out. They may in fact be regarded as two parties without names.

In other words, if these factions existed in the West they would form two parties. But here they have not become two separate parties. Even within the Islamic Republic Party one can see these two schools of thought; so there are tow factions there.

So the imam's advice relates to this development: These two processes should exist in a state of transition and should not conflict with or weaken one another. He advised that the conflicts should not assume a level that could undermine society's unity. Of course, this concern in a democratic country is reflected in the Majlis elections, in the law and in the minority groups that gain majority status and take over responsibility, thus implementing their views.

Prime Minister Comments on U.S. Relations, Economy

LD101642 Tehran IRNA in English 1600 GMT 10 Jun 86

[Text] Tehran, June 10, IRNA — Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi Tuesday ruled out the possibility that Tehran-Washington relations would be normalised "as long as the United States continued its aggressive and imperialist policies."

The premier said the Reagan administration has been pursuing a hostile and aggressive policy vis-a-vis Iran since the victory of 1979 Islamic revolution and that such policy was also being perpetuated throughout the world especially in the Indian Ocean, the Persian Gulf and the Oman Sea, by America.

On Reagan's claim of Iranian support for terrorism, Musavi [words indistinct] as irresponsible and said "we strongly refute the allegation but we are proud to support all liberation movements throughout the world." "No power can prevent us from supporting the deprived nations and protecting the Third World's freedom and honour" he said. "We will powerfully respond to any attack throughout the world".

Prime minister also said that the government will continue its policies to supply goods and control prices while simultaneously trying to change consumption patterns in the country. Prime minister Musavi said that basic commodities will be put at the people's disposal through the ration system and that the government will vigoriously continue its policy of controlling prices.

The prime minister made the remarks in a press conference attended by domestic and foreign reporters from Egypt, Italy, Germany and Austria.

He also reiterated that the government had many plans to deal with its fluctuating foreign exchange revenue. Elsewhere in his speech, the premier stressed that the slump in foreign exchange income will never affect foreign exchange expenses for the war. He added that the present situation will help the country cut its economic dependence, but it did not mean "we are not affected by the decline in oil prices".

Asked about government's use of state, private and cooperative sectors, the prime minister replied that according to the constitution these sectors were complementary to one another.

Envoy to Libya Delivers Al-Qadhdhafi Support Message

LD082228 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 8 Jun 86

[Text] Mr Khonsari, the Islamic Republic of Iran's ambassador to Libya, today met with Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the Majlis speaker, and handed him a message from Colonel Al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the Libyan Jamahiriyah. At this meeting Mr Khonsari reported on the steadfastness of the leadership and the Muslim and struggling nation of Libya in the face of the United States' evil aggression.

Then Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani thanked Col Al-Qadhdhafi for his message and praised the resistance of the Libyan leadership and nation against the U.S. aggression and said: The Islamic Repub-

lic of Iran with all its might will stand alongside the Libyan Government and people against any kind of aggression.

Industries Minister, FRG Envoy Discuss Trade Ties

LD101630 Tehran IRNA in English 1555 GMT 10 Jun 86

[Excerpt] Tehran, June 10, IRNA — Prospects for increased economic and industiral cooperation between West Germany and Iran were discussed in a meeting between the West German Ambassador to Tehran and Iranian industries minister here Tuesday.

Industries Minister Gholam Reza Shafe'i stressed in the meeting that West Germany should increase its non-oil imports from Iran in order to Preserve the current volume of trade between the two countries.

He also said that the Islamic Republic of Iran was against its economy being totally dependent on oil exports and was therefore interested in employing all creative forces to achieve economic independence. He also suggested that West Germany contribute to projects in Iran as well as technology transfer in exchange for its export of commodities used in these projects.

The West German ambassador A. Freitag announced that his country was prepared to expand with the concept of the free market its economic relations with Iran. He also expressed hope that Iran would remain a partner in free economic relations.

Kuwait Continues To Torture, Expel Nationals

GF071523 Bushehr Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 7 Jun 86

[Text] The Kuwaiti Government continued its hostile activities against the Islamic Republic of Iran by expelling the past few days 25 Muslim Iranian workers residing in that country.

According to the Central News Unit, this group was arrested by Kuwaiti security officials and subjected to physical and mental torture during their period of arrest. They were then expelled and transported by motorboat. They arrived through the maritime borders of the Persian Gulf at the ports of Bushehr and Hendijan. The report adds that after entry this group was housed in a special refugee camp in Bushehr.

Petroleum Minister Interviewed on OPEC, Oil Policy

LD071455 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 7 Jun 86

[Excerpts] Petroleum Minister Aqazadeh, during an interview with a Central News Unit correspondent, responded to various questions relating to the international oil market, the upcoming OPEC meeting and its agenda, foreign currency exchange derived from Iranian oil production and exports, and domestic gas distribution.

[Begin recording] [Correspondent] Mr Minister, could you tell us about the present situation of the international oil market?

[Aqazadeh] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The situation is not desirable, particularly from the point of view of the pricing imposed on OPEC which has removed its control of pricing policies and turned oil into yet another commodity open to market price decisions. This has caused heavy damage to OPEC. It now has to wait and see what the market will do to oil prices before it takes any steps. Today, the market situation is such that it does not allow any long-term policies on prices and conditions of sale. Oil prices change daily; members see no reason to lower production and everyone produces as much as possible and floods the market. Generally, there is an unsuitable situation in the oil market, which is being made worse by indecision on the part of OPEC.

[Correspondent] In the course of a recent meeting between a number of member states with other producers of petroleum held in Saudi Arabia, a goal of reaching a minimum of $18-19 per barrel was mentioned. Could you tell us about your reaction to this?

[Aqazadeh] Since reaching the figure of $28 per barrel, as unanimously agreed to at the last two OPEC sessions, any change in policy must be approved at another session. Such prices cannot be approved by the Islamic Republic of Iran. If we were to consider these prices as a prelude to actions for reaching the official prices we would accept such utterances. However, if we are to reach $19 per barrel at most, we cannot ratify such actions. I believe that these have been speculations made by the press, disregarding OPEC's decision-making power.

[Correspondent] What is the agenda for the next OPEC session?

[Aqazadeh] The most important topic is that of production quotas for members. It is not good to have a general ceiling for production without any clear quota for members. We aim to discuss the issue of quotas and decide on an oil price. We will never review our stands vis-a-vis oil prices, and consider the actions by the majority of OPEC members as unsuccessful in their attempts at raising prices.

[Correspondent] Could you tell us about Iran's oil production and exports and also the forecasted foreign currency exchange for this year and the means by which shortage of currency exchange may be confronted?

[Aqazadeh] Our country's oil revenue will be conducted within the framework of OPEC production quotas and we do not envisage any problems in exporting this amount. The cabinet has decided on a ceiling for this year's plans of $10 billion, of which a large part comes from oil and other exports. We hope to reach the target for oil exports. There are priorities endorsed by the cabinet vis-a-vis economic sectors. Some have no restrictions, such as defence, and whatever else needs be provided; but for consumer goods, as I have mentioned before, no change is envisioned as compared with last year. Regardingthe manufacturing sector, part of the needed currency exchange will be borne by the government and the rest by non-oil export activities. This requires extra effort by the ministries in order to swing the trends from oil to non-oil revenues. Investments are subject to Majlis-approved priorities, which are being carried out by the cabinet. The currency exchange investment essential to the coun-

try's economy will continue with the available resources. I believe we will take effective steps toward self-sufficiency and separation from petrodollars and oil exports. [end recording]

In his interview, Aqazadeh stated: The government has stressed the need to export gas. We hope our negotiations for gas exports next year will reach a new and effective phase. The petroleum minister added: Domestically, special priorities have been given to expand the gas distribution network. This year, there are to be 150,000 gas connections. The total gas connections during the previous regime was around 40-50,000. The figure reached nearly 400,000 at the end of 1364 [year beginning 21 March 1985] following the completion of 92,000 connections. In the very near future, gas distribution plans for provinces during 1365 [year beginning 21 March 1986] and 1366 [year beginning 21 March 1987] will be published. The government intends to use its resources to the maximum in order to expand the gas distribution network for domestic and industrial use. Following these policies, during 1365 more than 60 towns will be engaged in activities related to gas distribution.

Military Training Base for Civilians Opens in Tehran

LD062002 Tehran IRNA in English 1854 GMT 6 Jun 86

[Text] Tehran, June 6, IRNA — A military training center for providing basic military training to civilian volunteers opened in east Tehran Thursday. It is the first of its kind in response to Imam Khomeyni's March 24 suggestions for providing military training for a contingency force of civilians.

In his inaugural speech, head of the Central headquarters of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) Mr. Afshar called on the people throughout the country to build similar military centers for their own areas. On behalf of the IRGC and Army commanders he also expressed appreciation to the organisers of the center.

Imam Khomeyni's representative to the center Hojjat ol-Eslam Jalali in his address to the visitors expressed hope that as more similar military training centers are founded so, too, will rise the chances of Palestinians for attaining their denied rights from the Zionists, and for inflicting "a crucial blow upon the world's arch-criminals."

Iraqi Forces Destroy Kurdish Village After Protest

LD081726 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 8 Jun 86

[Excerpts] According to a Central News Unit report, the Zionist regime in Iraq continuing its activities against the Muslim people in the north of that country, has devastated (Bengard) District in Sulaymaniyah Province. This deprived district has been without safe drinking water despite paying heavy sums many years ago toward an irrigation scheme.

After a gathering of local residents in front of the district governorate building protested to the officials, the security forces of the Zionist regime in Iraq opened fire, martyring more than 10 of them. Also, more than 100 residents were arrested while the frightened officials of the Zionist regime using small bulldozers demolished houses belonging to local people.

Based on reports from inside Iraq, at present the majority of 2,000 householders of Bengard District are scattered as refugees throughout various nearby towns. During the past 7 years, more than 6,000 Kurdish villages have been demolished by the rulers of Baghdad.

SAIRI Issues Report on Executed Iraqi Officers

GF110758 Tehran International Service in Turkish 1830 GMT 10 Jun 86

[Text] According to a news bulletin published by the Supreme Assembly for the Islamic Revolution in Iraq [SAIRI], hundreds of high-ranking officers have been sent to the Iraqi regime's gallows for various reasons since the beginning of the war against the Islamic revolution. The bulletin lists a number of names of the executed officers, noting that these names are non all-inclusive. The names on the list have been acquired from the information gathered by various sources. However, the number of Iraqi officers and men who have disappeared or who have been secretly eliminated by the Baghdad regime is much higher.

The SAIRI report also carried the names of 13 colonels and generals among the high-ranking officers executed by the Saddam regime. Catching the eye on the list are the names of Staff Colonel 'Adnan Sharif Shahab, one of Saddam's military advisers; Staff Colonel Najat Shawkat, commander of the 22d Infantry Brigade; and Colonel Ramzi, commander of the commando forces.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

9 Jun Communique

GF101414 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 9 Jun 86

[Text] The joint command of the armed forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran announced in its communique [unnumbered] issued tonight that the heroic eagles of our Air Force this afternoon bombed concentration points and armor belonging to the Saddamist regime on the other side of the Al-Faw operational sector. After pounding their targets, our heroic eagles returned safely to base having inflicted severe damage on the Saddamist aggressors.

The communique added that the Islamic combatants yesterday killed or wounded more than 45 Saddamists on the northwestern, western, and southern fronts. They destroyed 45 posts and ammunition dumps, and several vehicles.

During the past 24 hours, the Islamic forces directed artillery shelling against the Iraqi (?Banmil) oil installations and inflicted direct losses on the Saddamist aggressors. Yesterday, the Saddamist forces shelled Abadan, resulting in damage to more than 10 houses and shops.

Communique No 2,497

LD101746 Tehran IRNA in English 1731 GMT 10 Jun 86

[Text] Tehran, June 10, IRNA — Four Iranian Civilians were martyred and others wounded as Iraqi artillery fire hit the city of Sardasht, in West Azarbayjan Province, early Tuesday, said a military communique.

The joint staff Communique number 2497 said that at least 60 Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and 15 gun emplacements as well as three vehicles of theirs demolished in the southern fronts Monday as Iranian Gendarmerie forces shelled Iraqi positions and their motorized units. Enemy artillery fire was also silenced.

Iranian artillery fire on Iraqi positions in the northwestern fronts Monday destroyed parts of their positions, and several light and heavy vehicles and one munitions dump of theirs. A number of Iraqi soldiers were also killed or wounded and their fire silenced, according to the communique. Iranian Muslim combatants, the communique said, carried out at least 28 reconnaissance missions and successfully ambushed Iraqis in their positions in the northwestern fronts Monday and safely returned to their bases.

The communique said that exchange of artillery fire continued in the southern fronts raging somehwat more heavily in Mehran where most Iraqi engineering operations were checked and the Iraqi troops shelled by Iranian forces. In the southern fronts, the communique said, exchange of artillery fire continued more heavily than in other fronts. In Majnun Islands Muslim forces of Iran opened heavy fire on Iraqi positions inflicting substantial casualties and losses on them.

Iraqi supply routes, and their convoys of military vehicles carrying personnel in Sumar, Maymak and Naft-e Shah in the western fronts were pounded by Iranian forces which also prevented Iraqi troops from manning their positions or transporting their troops, said the communique. Muslim forces of Iran, the communique said, checked movement of columns of Iraqi vehicles in Panjwin and opened fire on an enemy armoured unit in Seyyed-Sadeq inflicting casualties and damage on it.

Meanwhile, the city of Abadan in Khuzestan Province was hit by Iraqi long range artillery fire Monday as a result of which some houses were damaged.

1,800 Iraqi Officers Killed in February

LD071059 Tehran IRNA in English 1000 GMT 7 Jun 86

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov., June 7, IRNA — Over 1800 senior Iraqi officers have been killed in the course of the last February Val-Fajr-8 offensive in which the Iraqi strategic port city of Al-Faw was liberated by the Islamic forces of Iran, informed sources said.

According to reports from inside Iraq, the senior officers, ranging from the rank of company commander to the commander of division, were killed during the liberation offensive and in subsequent unsuccessful Iraqi counterattacks. Among commanders killed in Val-Fajr-8 offensive are Major General (Ali Jassem al-Hayani) commander of (Mohammad-al-Qassem forces) and Brigadier Generals (Ali Nassari), (Ehsan Kameli) and (Jassem al-Amari).

AFP: 1,000 Iranian Oppositionists Leave for Iraq

AU101532 Paris AFP in English 1511 GMT 10 Jun 86

[Excerpts] Pontoise, France, June 10 (AFP) — About 1,000 Iranian opposition mojahedin activists left France over the past few weeks for resistance bases in Iraq on the Iranian border, according to a statement issued by the rebel group received here Tuesday [10 June].

The statement, issued from London, said that the decision for their leader Mas'ud Rajavi to leave France Saturday had been taken by the National Iranian Resistance Council, which Mr. Rajavi presides. They are going back to prepare the "revolution" against Iranian ruler Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni, it said. About 300 members of the Iranian opposition group remain in France, according to French estimates.

Mojahedin-e Khalq Planning Anti-Regime Operations

LD091342 Kuwait KUNA in English 1202 GMT 9 Jun 86

[Text] London, June 8 (KUNA) — Over one thousand members of the Iranian opposition Mojahedin-e Khalq have flown to Iraq recently to take part in cross-border operations again the Iranian regime, the organization announced in London.

The fighters left France in groups over the past few weeks and will now join "resistance forces based on Iranian borders", according to a statement issued by the Mojahedin's office. More than one thousand guerrillas were involved in the move, said the group without giving precise numbers or details of their future deployment. The Mojahedin already claim to be active in parts of Iranian Kuedestan, neighbouring on Iraq's northern borders, and in the country's major cities and towns.

The latest military buildup is an attempt to increase the Mojahedin's military strength in order to prepare the ground for a "general uprising" throughout Iran aimed at toppling the government in Tehran, it added.

The statement follows the departure of Mojahedin leader Mas'ud Rajavi from Paris to Baghdad Saturday following growing French pressure on the organization, whose leadership has been based near Paris for the past five years.

The statement followed an earlier declaration by the Mojahedin-dominated Iranian National Council of Resistance, portraying Rajavi's move to Iraq as a new stage in its fight to overthrow the Iranian regime.

Mojahedin sources in London sought Monday to [words indistinct] reports that Rajavi's departure was a result of official French pressure, saying instead that it was a calculated escalation of their anti-government campaign. However, they privately expressed dismay at what they called "the fact that some coun-

tries are now succumbing to blackmail from the Khomeyni regime".

They said that France, by dissociating itself from the Iranian opposition group, hopes to secure Tehran's cooperation in the case of kidnapped French hostages, as well as mending its strained relations with the Iranian authorities.

Opposition Paper on Khomeyni War Against Iraq
GF081413 London KEYHAN in Persian 29 May 86 p 6

[Editorial: "In the Hope of a Defeated Saddam"]

[Text] Rulers of the Tehran regime of lower and higher ranks, turbaned or capped — all of them have said for years that they will continue the war until "victory." By victory they mean the downfall of the Iraqi Ba'thist regime. But in order not to hurt the feelings of the Syrian Ba'thists who rule Syria and who are of the same stock as the Iraqi Ba'thists, they call it the fall of the "Saddam regime." Moreover, all of them believe that they can deliver a crushing defeat to the Iraqi Army and thus end the rule of the Ba'thist regime of Iraq and let the Iraqi people, in a "free" election, choose an Islamic republic for themselves, similar to the type of regime now ruling Iran. The logic of continuing the war by the Tehran regime fixes the form of government that should come to power in Iraq.

Nobody can be deceived by the propaganda that the Islamic Republic does not have its eyes set on Iraqi territory and that it is interested only in the type of regime in Iraq. When a puppet regime takes power in a country, the question of territory is not so important. An Islamic government in Iraq is far more important to Ayatollah Khomeyni than a military takeover of part of this country, because he knows that the path of the military invasion of the emirates of the Persian Gulf, Lebanon, Jordan, and .... [elipses as published] will never be trodden under any circumstances. His "Islamic combatants" have bogged themselves down in a war of attrition on the Iraq-Iran borders in the hope that one day their rival may fall. But his political victory in Iraq will open the paths of his ideological victory in a way that 10 experienced and war-seasoned army divisions could not.

The fact is that Iraq, or more correctly, its Ba'thist regime, has willy-nilly come out in the form of a fort and if the geographical and strategic scene of the region does not suffer any basic change, this fort should not yield to the Khomeyni ideology. The slogan that "the way to Palestine is through Karbala' " may mean that Palestine is not the next goal of Khomeyni but its very aspiration; if it does not point to the Arab lands, it does point to the Arab governments. The more effective participation of the other "volunteer" Arab countries in the war is not merely in sympathy for Saddam; it is due to their concern for themselves. At any cost the ayatollah wants to save his revolution, which is daily facing growing domestic difficulties. It does not take much research to conclude that the way to "safeguard" it is not in the country. The domestic policy of the Islamic regime is facing defeat in every field. Only a noticeable victory outside the country could make up for this defeat. Even if there was no Saddam Husayn and even if he had not made the mistake of attacking Iran, Ayatollah Khomeyni would have found a reason to do so. This is proved by this strange and unbelievable insistence on continuing the war. A defeated Saddam could render the highest service to the cause of the ayatollah.

It is a fact that Israel and Syria, the arms factories for the East and West, are the real winners of this war. The ayatollah also cannot survive without this war. The more the domestic difficulties of his regime grow, the more he needs a victory in the war. Suffering horrific losses for the military invasion of Al-Faw makes it more than necessary that he should gain a victory in the war. However, since the war has now given up its national aspect, the regime can only adopt harsh measures inside the country. Normally, a self-centered government which is at war with a foreign enemy adopts a "lenient" policy inside the country, however transient it may be, to win the support of the people, but the Khomeyni regime cannot do this because the war is no longer a national war. The opposition has taken a pivotal form which has drawn around it people from various backgrounds. By continuing the war the ayatollah is not fighting against Saddam only; he is also fighting against his domestic opponents. The existence of the regime depends on that, but its resources, whether human or material, are not in the least interested in continuing the war. The Tehran regime finds the ring of potentialities growing tighter every day. The number of families unwilling to have their young ones slaughtered in the useless war is continually growing. Eyes of the young men and teenagers no longer reflect the fire of the propaganda of the regime.

There have been governments which have fallen because of a miltiary defeat, but we rarely see a regime fall because of a lack of a victory. In this respect the ayatollah's regime is an exceptional one.